

A CHRISTMAS TALE

T'WAS CHRISTMAS EVE,
COLD AND WINTRY. SNOW
BLANKETED THE GROUND
AND PILED UP AGAINST THE
MOTOR POOL BUILDING...



INSIDE, THE AIR WAS
ALMOST AS COLD...

CAN'T WE
PLEASE GET A
SPACE HEATER,
SGT SCROOGE?
MY FINGERS—



NO CHANCE, SPC
CRATCHETT. SPACE
HEATERS ARE
EXPENSIVE!

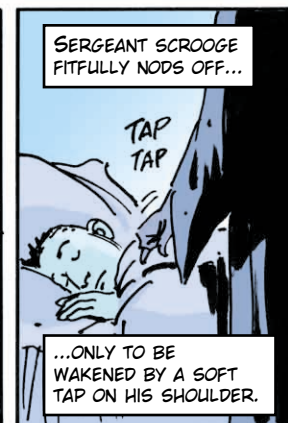
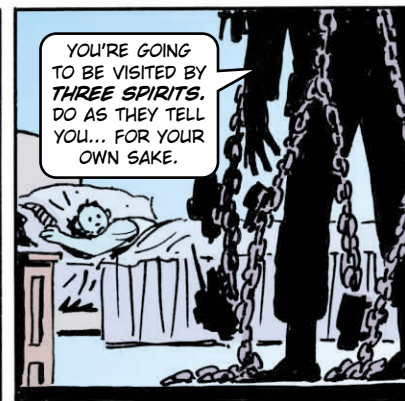
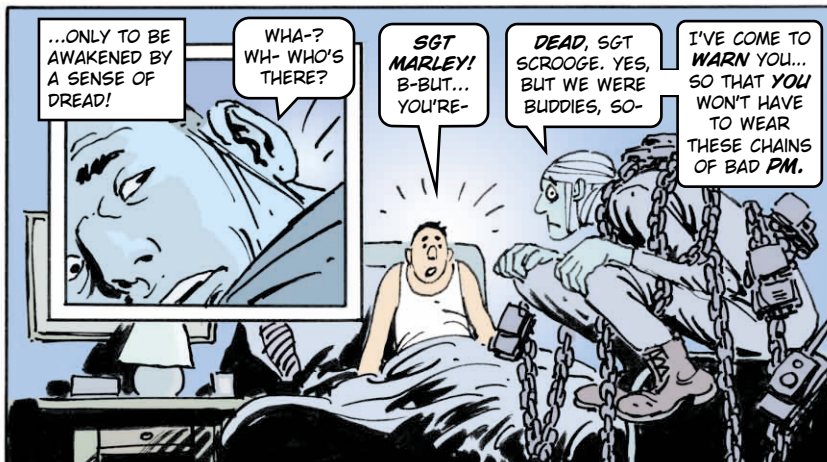
AND YOUR LEAVE IS
CANCELLED. THERE'S
GOING TO BE AN
INSPECTION ON
27 DECEMBER. YOUR
WORK'S GOT TO
BE DONE.

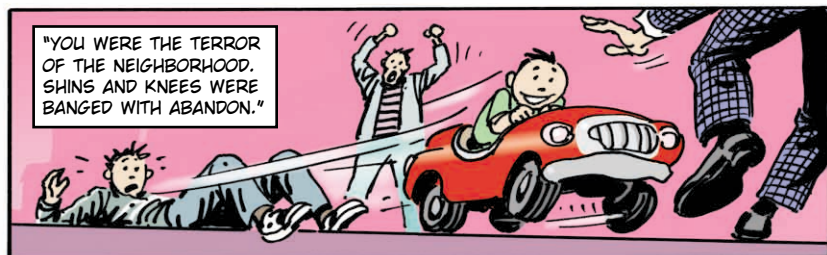
B-BUT, SIR...
IT'S **CHRISTMAS**.
MY FAMILY—



OH, ALL RIGHT.
TAKE TOMORROW
OFF... BUT BE **EARLY**
THE **NEXT** DAY.







"BUT YOU NEVER TOOK CARE OF IT. NEVER OILED THE WHEELS OR TIGHTENED LOOSE NUTS. YOU LET IT RUST."

A LITTLE PM COULD'VE SAVED IT. WHY DIDN'T YOU TAKE PROPER CARE OF IT?

SURE. YOU HAD OTHER MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO DO WITH YOUR TIME AND MONEY.

Y-YOU'RE RIGHT. GOOD PM WOULD'VE SAVED THAT CAR. BUT PM IS EXPENSIVE AND TIME-CONSUMING.

WELL, I GUESS YOU'LL BE GOING NOW...

AND SO... THAT PRETTY RED CAR LANDED IN THE GARBAGE.

NO TIME. AND... OIL WASN'T CHEAP.



IT'S... FREEZING OUT HERE. WH-WHERE ARE YOU TAKING ME?

ISN'T THAT MY MOTOR POOL?

YOU'LL LEARN THE ANSWERS IN DUE TIME, SGT SCROOGE.

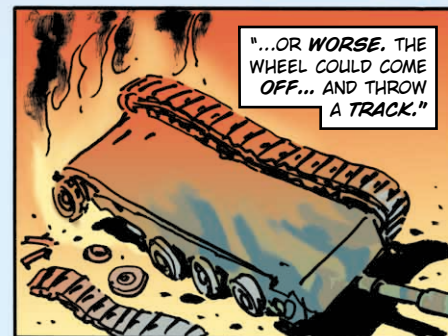


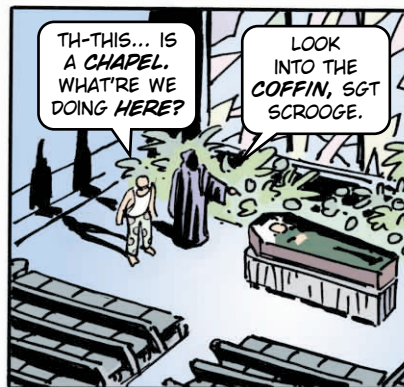
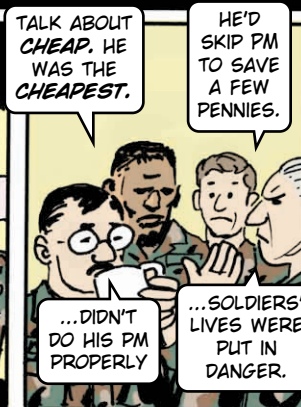
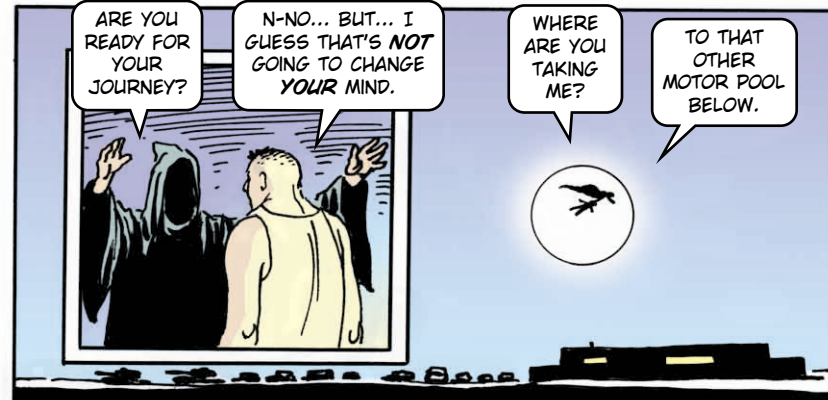
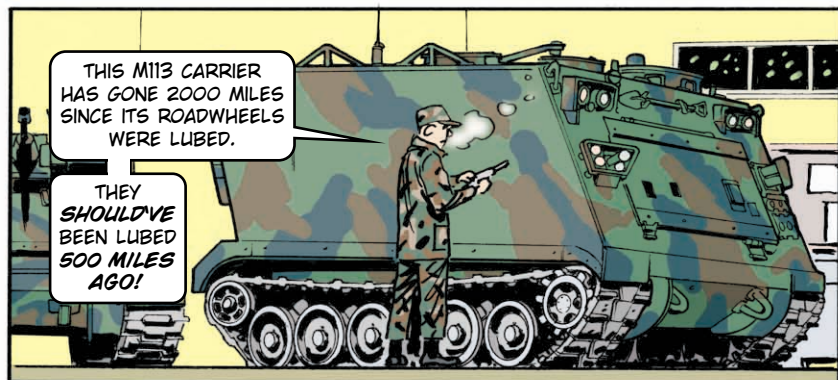
IF SGT SCROOGE HADN'T MADE ME RE-USE THESE ROAD-WHEEL NUTS, I COULD BE HOME RIGHT NOW. THEY SHOULD BE USED ONLY ONCE.

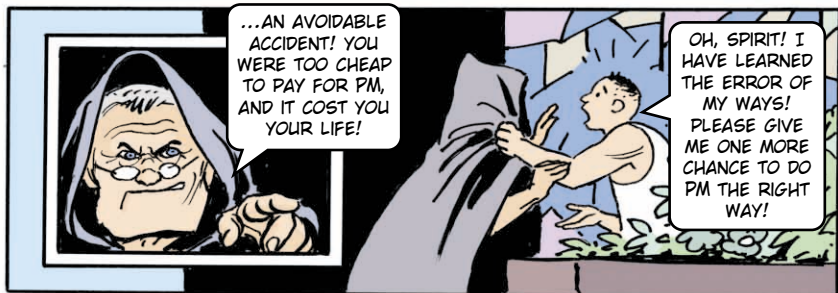
RE-USED NUTS'LL COME LOOSE. THEN YOU'LL GET A WOBBLY WHEEL...



"...OR WORSE. THE WHEEL COULD COME OFF... AND THROW A TRACK."







...AN AVOIDABLE
ACCIDENT! YOU
WERE TOO CHEAP
TO PAY FOR PM,
AND IT COST YOU
YOUR LIFE!

OH, SPIRIT! I
HAVE LEARNED
THE ERROR OF
MY WAYS!
PLEASE GIVE
ME ONE MORE
CHANCE TO DO
PM THE RIGHT
WAY!



MOMENTS
LATER...

WHA-?
WHERE
AM I?

I'M
BACK IN
MY OWN
BED...

AND IT'S STILL
**CHRISTMAS
EVE.**

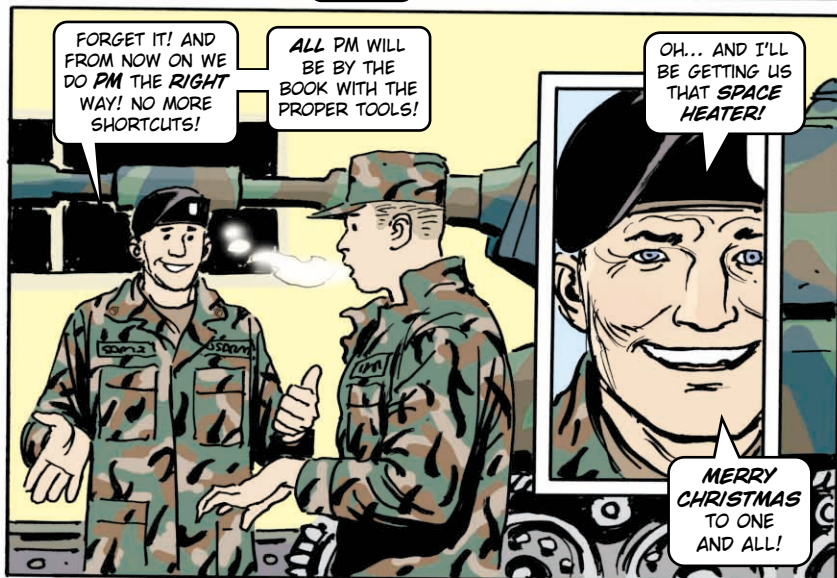


I'VE GOT
TO GET
BACK TO
THE
**MOTOR
POOL.**



CRATCHETT. YOU
STILL HERE? WHY
AREN'T YOU HOME
WITH YOUR FAMILY?

BUT...
YOU TOLD
ME—



FORGET IT! AND
FROM NOW ON WE
DO **PM** THE **RIGHT**
WAY! NO MORE
SHORTCUTS!

ALL PM WILL
BE BY THE
BOOK WITH THE
PROPER TOOLS!

OH... AND I'LL
BE GETTING US
THAT **SPACE
HEATER!**

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**
TO ONE
AND ALL!